Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

# Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00889 120934Z
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 L-01 /033 W
----------120938Z 021441 /12
P 120932Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2716

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 0889

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ET, US
SUBJ: US-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS FOLLOWING EVENTS BEGINNING JAN 29, 1977

REF: A) STATE 32344, B) ADDIS ABABA 741, C) ADDIS ABABA 816

1. REFTEL (A) RECEIVED JUST PRIOR TO MEETING ARRANGED AT MY REQUEST WITH BERHANE DERESSA, ACTING DIRECTOR, AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION, MOFA, MORNING FEB 12. THEREFORE OTHER THAN TO CALL HIS ATTENTION TO MENGISTU STATEMENT OF FEB 4 AND TO EXPRESS PERSONAL OPINION THAT WASHINGTON WAS LIKELY TO BE MOST DISTURBED OVER THIS DEVELOPMENT, I DID NOT ATTEMPT TO PERSURE MATTER AT THIS MEETING. I DID, HOWEVER, REMIND BERHANE THAT I HAD AN OUTSTANDING INSTRUCTION ON GODLEY MATTER AND WOULD APPRECIATE AN EARLY APPOINTMENT WITH FONMIN KIFLE TO DISCUSS IT. I WILL INDICATE TO BERHANE ON MONDAY (FEB 14) THAT I WILL ALSO WANT TO TAKE UP REFTEL (A) WITH KIFLE AT SAME TIME.

2. PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IS THAT KIFLE HAS STILL NOT RETURNED TO ADDIS (REFTEL C). BERHANE TOLD POLCOUNS AND MYSELF HE EXPECTED BACK THIS WEEKEND, BUT IT OBVIOUS TO US THAT MATTER MUST HAVE BEEN ON BERHANE'S MIND SINCE BERHANE APPEARED PRE-OCCUPIED THROUGHOUT MEETING. HE ACCEPTED SUBSTANCE OF STATE 28002 ALMOST WITHOUT ANY REACTION AT ALL. WE THEREFORE SUSPECT HE HAS HAD A
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DIFFICULT WEEK AND MAY WELL FEAR THAT IF KIFLE DOES NOT RETURN, HE MAY BE IN FOR REAL TROUBLE. HE MAY ALSO HAVE PERSONAL REASONS FOR CONCERN.

3. OUR OVERALL IMPRESSION IS THAT IF KIFLE DOES NOT RETURN, AND IF BERHANE'S PRE-OCCUPATION IS WIDESPREAD THROUGHOUT MOFA, TRANSACTION OF SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS MAY WELL BE SLOWER THAN USUAL

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WITH KEY OFFICERS BEING HARD TO REACH OR UNWILLING TO TAKE ACTION
IN PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY. SOME MAY EVEN BECOME PERMANENTLY
UNAVAILABLE. WE WILL KEEP DEPT INFORMED.
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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Sent Date:** 12-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
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